

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed on March 31, 2004, the Examiner objected to the drawings; objected to claims 64, 66, and 68; rejected claims 64-66, and 68 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph; allowed claims 63 and 67; and indicated that 64-66 and 68 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the Section 112, 2nd paragraph rejection.

As a preliminary matter, Applicant notes that the Office Action addressed only claims 63-68. Applicant submits, however, that claims **63-69** are currently pending in the application. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that all of the pending claims be included in the next official communication.

By this Amendment, Applicant has further clarified the claims in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Applicant has also amended Fig. 5 and the specification to include a control element 131. No new matter has been added to the application by the amendments to Fig. 5 and to the specification.

Applicant respectfully traverses the objection to the drawings. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's contention Fig. 5 must show a "control means" in order to comply with the requirement of 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a) that every feature of the invention be shown in the drawings. For example, Applicant submits that the control element 31, shown in Figs. 3 and 4, effectively represents a "control means." Further, it is clear from the disclosure on page 17, for example, that the pressure regulator 29 may itself include control elements for selecting a reference fluid pressure. Further, such control elements may even be associated with pressure switch 55. Nevertheless, in the interest of advancing prosecution of the application, Applicant has submitted an amended Fig. 5 that includes a control element 131 drawn independently from pressure regulator 29 and pressure switch 55. Because Applicant has complied

with the Examiner's requirement of showing "a pressure sensor, a pressure regulator, and control means" in Fig. 5, the objection to the drawings should be withdrawn.

Applicant respectfully traverses the objection to claims 64, 66, and 68. As suggested by the Examiner, the phrase "the sensed pressure" in claims 64 and 66 has been changed to --the sensed gas pressure--. Accordingly, the objection to claims 64, 66, and 68 should be withdrawn.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Section 112, 2nd paragraph rejection of claims 64-66 and 68. With respect to claims 64 and 66, Applicant has clarified that the first and second reference fluid pressures are selected from among the plurality of predetermined reference fluid pressures that the pressure regulator can supply. With respect to claims 65 and 66, Applicant has changed the phrase "the valve element" to --the valve member--. Applicant respectfully submits that each of the pending claims is in compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, and therefore, the Section 112, 2nd paragraph rejection of claims 64-66 and 68 should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and reexamination of this application and timely allowance of the pending claims.

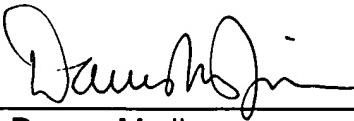
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: June 30, 2004

By:



Darren M. Jiron
Reg. No. 45,777

Attachments: One sheet of drawings including an amended Fig. 5.